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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Applicant: Klaus Fröhlich  
Serial No: 10/709,513  
U.S. Filed: 5/11/2004  
For: Device for Connecting Ends of Bars

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

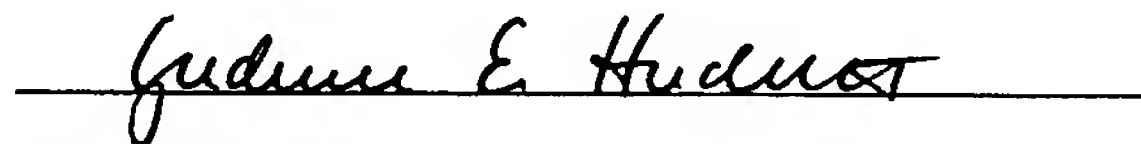
In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents (except U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications) are attached.

These references have been cited in a Search Report received from the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) dated March 15, 2005. The search report has been prepared by the Austrian Patent Office contracted by the IPOS for this purpose. A copy of the search report is attached. The search report contains a concise explanation as to the relevance of the references. Please note the US 5,046,878 is the equivalent of EP 0 348 060 listed in the Search Report. Also note that DE 295 00 727 listed in the Search Report is not submitted as this reference has already been submitted to the USPTO on 7/30/04.

**It is herewith stated that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.**

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted April 20, 2005,



Ms. Gudrun E. Hockett, Ph.D.  
Patent Agent, Registration No. 35,747  
Lönsstr. 53  
42289 Wuppertal  
GERMANY  
Telephone: 49-202-257-0371  
Facsimile: 49-202-257-0372  
gudrun.draudt@t-online.de

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Enclosures: ☒ PTO 1449  
☒ reference(s)  
☒ search report  
☐ fee



TO 1449		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>  <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	10/709,513
		<b>Filing Date</b>	5/11/2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Klaus Fröhlich
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
Date submitted: 4/20/05		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
Sheet 1 of 1		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	A91988

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	5,046,878	9/19/1991	Young	403	13	1/11/1990
	2	5,909,980	6/8/1999	Holdsworth	403	362	9/8/1997

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	3	0 554 972	9/11/1993	EPO			X
							X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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